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# Subcommittee on Technical Assistance Programs

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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MAR 28 1955

STATEMENT BY SENATOR MIKE MANSFIELD, CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Submitted to Senate Appropriations Committee, March, 1955

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate this opportunity to urge your support of the full \$8 million recommended by the President as the United States contribution to the United Nations Technical Assistance Program for the first six months of this calendar year.

The Subcommittee on Technical Assistance Programs of the Foreign Relations Committee is now in the midst of a thorough study of, among other things, United States participation in the United Nations program and the relationship of the UN program to our own bilateral activities. I do not want to anticipate the results of that study or the conclusions which the subcommittee may reach. However, I do want to call the Committee's attention to impressive evidence which our subcommittee has received of support for the UN program, among the American people as well as among other nations of the world.

I particularly want to point out that the request for a supplemental appropriation provides for only an interim continuation of United States participation in the UN program. Later this spring Congress will have to determine how and to what extent the United States will participate in the UN program after June 30 of this year. That determination is one which involves basic issues of long-range United States foreign policy, and it should not be prejudiced by abrupt action now to cut off or curtail United States contributions. If this appropriation is made now, in full, and Congress subsequently decides to change our participation in the UN program, it can do so. But if this appropriation is not made now, it will be a vastly more difficult thing subsequently to renew our participation.

The questions of policy involved here are not to be decided lightly or hastily. We are, after all, talking about a relatively small amount of money for a relatively brief period. I very much hope that the Appropriations Committee will approve the full amount requested and that between now and June 30, when this supplemental appropriation will expire, Congress can make the necessary long-range decisions concerning our future policy.